

1 A RESOLUTION in loving honor and memory of Clarence Henry "Soc" Clay.

2 WHEREAS, Clarence Henry "Soc" Clay was born on September 23, 1935, and
3 grew up in Greenup County, Kentucky. He attended William and Mary College of
4 Williamsburg, Virginia, prior to transferring to Western State Teacher's College of
5 Bowling Green, Kentucky; and

6 WHEREAS, Soc Clay developed a passion for photography and writing. Over his
7 55-year career as a photojournalist, he traveled extensively for work to document the
8 outdoors. As one of the world's most sought-after outdoors photographers and writers, he
9 was able to travel the globe to chronicle the breathtaking scenes of nature; and

10 WHEREAS, Soc Clay's byline and photo credits have appeared in every major
11 publication in North America that covers outdoor recreation. Over the years, he served as
12 a masthead editor for a variety of publications, including Outdoor Life, Bassin', and
13 Fishing Facts, and was the fishing editor for Heartland USA Magazine and Fishing South
14 columnist for Cabela's Outfitter Journal Magazine; and

15 WHEREAS, Soc Clay's work assignments included the far-flung reaches of the
16 Mexico Mountains, floating the Amazon, trips to Finland and Russia, as well as all over
17 the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, Soc Clay received dozens of prestigious local, regional, and national
19 awards for his work in outdoor photojournalism. His most treasured were the Lifetime
20 Achievement Award and the much-heralded Tom Rollins Award, presented by the
21 Southeastern Outdoor Press Association. In 1983, Soc Clay was named Poet Laureate of
22 Kentucky, the first-ever photojournalist to receive the award. In 2003, he was the first
23 photojournalist in history to be inducted into the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of
24 Fame as a Legendary Communicator. In 2003, Soc Clay was again the first
25 photojournalist to be honored by the Legends of the Outdoors National Hall of Fame as a
26 Legendary Photojournalist; and

27 WHEREAS, despite all of Soc Clay's travels, his special love for northeast

1 Kentucky and the banks of the Ohio River in Greenup County would forever make those
2 areas his home. Soc Clay and his wife, Wanda, lived in a log cabin in a deep fold of the
3 Appalachians of South Shore, Kentucky. He was called to the "Happy Hunting Grounds
4 in the Sky" at 86 years young on December 28, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Soc Clay is preceded in death by his parents and a son, Kerry Randall
6 Clay. He is survived by his wife, Wanda; children, Tom (Robin) Clay and Carla (Donald)
7 Piening; grandchildren, Caroline Clay, Haley Clay, John Henry Clay Piening, and Riah
8 Jane Durick; nephew, Dan Warner; and a tribe of family and friends throughout the
9 United States;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

11 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
12 *Kentucky:*

13 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate express their most profound sympathy
14 upon the passing of Clarence Henry "Soc" Clay and extend heartfelt condolences to his
15 family, friends, and community in this time of loss.

16 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
17 memory of Clarence Henry "Soc" Clay.

18 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
19 Resolution to Wanda Clay at 350 Fern Hollow, South Shore, Kentucky 41175.